

every law enforcement agency, but apparently not Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The American people know that the truth of matters will come out.

What is sad and unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, is that along the way to truth, we disgrace ourselves and our institution by not maintaining a high standard which we all should be setting. Mr. Speaker, remove the chairman from this investigation.

SUPPORT H.R. 2829, THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP ACT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today H.R. 2829, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Act, will come before this body to serve one very important purpose, and that purpose is to help save the lives of our law enforcement personnel.

Tomorrow in Carson City, the capital of Nevada, State officials and law enforcement representatives will gather to dedicate the Nevada Law Enforcement Police Officers Memorial. Inscribed on this memorial are the names of every law enforcement officer who lost his or her life in the line of duty.

The passage of H.R. 2829 will help protect our law enforcement officers who, on a daily basis, put their lives on the line to keep our communities and ourselves and our families safe.

It is the hope of all Nevadans, and I know especially the families of law enforcement personnel, that the passage of this legislation will prevent future names and, perhaps, their loved ones from being added to this valorous memorial.

The men and women of law enforcement provide safety and a sense of security to every American citizen. This is our chance to provide a sense of safety and security to them.

PARTISANSHIP FOUND IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE INVESTIGATION

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, accusations of partisanship are very common in this city. However, it is also common to notice that those making accusations of partisanship are often among the most bitterly partisan people in the entire city.

The top Democrat on the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is a proud partisan with impeccable credentials. Just listen to his impressive record of partisanship. He had no problem with the White House having 900 FBI files on Republicans. He thought White House nonexplanations that no one knew who hired Craig Livingstone was satisfactory. He had no problem with the White House smear of Billy Dale and the others fired in the White House travel office.

Vice presidential fund-raising on government property, no problem. The Vice President having a fund-raiser at a Buddhist Temple in California, no problem. The Democrats see nothing wrong with that. Shaking down impoverished Indian tribes for campaign money, no problem.

The Democrats ask why we should care. Turning the White House coffees into fund-raisers, I have a problem with that, Mr. Speaker.

GLOBAL WARMING

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, a petition has been signed and released by over 17,000 scientists urging the Congress and other lawmakers around the world to reject the Kyoto Protocols on global climate change. The 17,000 signers include over 2,000 physicists, geophysicists, climatologists, meteorologists, oceanographers, and environmental scientists.

In addition, 4,400 are qualified to assess the effects of carbon dioxide upon the Earth's plant and animal life, and most of the remaining signers have technical training suitable to understanding climate change issues.

The petition letter is a strongly worded statement that goes beyond rejecting the Kyoto Protocol. It denies the existence of any scientific evidence that man-made greenhouse gases will cause catastrophic warming, and even goes so far as to say "increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide produce many beneficial effects upon the natural plant and animal environments of the Earth." That is because carbon dioxide is not a pollutant. It is a life essential gas.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this administration and its extremists to stop the deception of the American people on global climate change.

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HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER ATTACK IN TURKEY

(Mr. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, this morning in Ankara, Akin Birdal, widely regarded as Turkey's foremost human rights defender, was gunned down in his office by two unknown assailants. He is currently in critical condition in an Ankara hospital. Right-wing extremists have been blamed for the attack, but the Turkish government must bear some responsibility for this unconscionable act of violence, even if they did not pull the trigger.

In recent weeks, the Turkish media has quoted government sources as saying Mr. Birdal, an internationally re-

spected human rights leader, is a tool of the PKK. These stories were designed to turn popular opinion against Mr. Birdal, and these irresponsible lies may now cost him his life.

I visited Turkey earlier this year, Mr. Speaker, and met with government officials who seemed to understand there were serious human rights problems in their country, and they seemed committed to solving these problems. This latest act of violence casts grave doubts on the sincerity of this commitment.

I call on my colleagues to join me today in expressing our strong condemnation of this cowardly attack on a defender of human rights, and our demand that his attackers be brought to justice.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS WITH NO ANSWERS

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have some questions for the other side of the aisle, questions that I am absolutely 100 percent sure I will receive no answers for.

I am sure that I will receive no answers, because for nearly three years now the other side has made it abundantly clear that they have no interest in discovering how the Democratic National Committee raised nearly \$3 million in illegal campaign contributions from communist China; no interest in discovering how the White House came to possess 900 FBI files of Republicans; no interest in discovering who in the White House ordered the FBI and the IRS to investigate Billy Dale and the other White House Travel Office employees in order to smear them.

My questions are, do you think that Webster Hubbell's statement on his jailhouse tapes that "I need to roll over one more time," is indicative of a crime? Do you think that Webster Hubbell's statement with respect to over-billing that "I will not raise those allegations that might open it up to Hillary," is not indicative of a crime? Do you think that Mrs. Hubbell's great fears she will lose her job if her husband tells the truth about what he knows is not relevant to the committee's investigations?

Questions, yes, Mr. Speaker, that I am sure fellow Americans we will not a receive answer to, not a single one.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 11, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the

Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on May 11, 1998 at 3:40 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits the 1996 National Institute of Building Sciences annual report.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SCIENCES ANNUAL REPORT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the requirements of section 809 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701j-2(j)), I transmit herewith the annual report of the National Institute of Building Sciences for fiscal year 1996.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 1998.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

GRANITE WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2886) to provide for a demonstration project in the Stanislaus National Forest, California, under which a private contractor will perform multiple resource management activities for that unit of the National Forest system, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2886

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Granite Watershed Enhancement and Protection Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT, STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA, TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE GRANITE WATERSHED.

(a) **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary of Agriculture may

enter into a contract with a single private contractor to perform multiple resource management activities on Federal lands within the Stanislaus National Forest in the State of California for the purpose of demonstrating enhanced ecosystem health and water quality, and significantly reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire, in the Granite watershed at a reduced cost to the Government. The contract shall be for a term of five years.

(b) **AUTHORIZED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.**—The types of resource management activities performed under the contract shall include the following:

(1) Reduction of forest fuel loads through the use of precommercial and commercial thinning and prescribed burns.

(2) Monitoring of ecosystem health and water quality in the Granite watershed.

(3) Monitoring of the presence of wildlife in the area in which management activities are performed and the effect of the activities on wildlife presence.

(4) Such other resource management activities as the Secretary considers appropriate to demonstrate enhanced ecosystem health and water quality in the Granite watershed.

(c) **COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND SPOTTED OWL GUIDELINES.**—All resource management activities performed under the contract shall be performed in a manner consistent with applicable Federal law and the standards and guidelines for the conservation of the California spotted owl (as set forth in the California Spotted Owl Sierran Province Interim Guidelines or the subsequently issued final guidelines, whichever is in effect).

(d) **FUNDING.**—

(1) **SOURCES OF FUNDS.**—To provide funds for the resource management activities to be performed under the contract, the Secretary may use—

(A) funds appropriated to carry out this section;

(B) funds specifically provided to the Forest Service to implement projects to demonstrate enhanced water quality and protect aquatic and upland resources;

(C) excess funds that are allocated for the administration and management of the Stanislaus National Forest, California;

(D) hazardous fuels reduction funds allocated for Region 5 of the Forest Service; and

(E) a contract provision allowing the cost of performing authorized management activities described in subsection (b) to be offset by the values owed to the United States for any forest products removed by the contractor.

(2) **PROHIBITION ON USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS.**—Except as provided in paragraph (1), the Secretary may not carry out the contract using funds appropriated for any other unit of the National Forest System.

(3) **CONDITIONS ON FUNDS TRANSFERS.**—Any transfer of funds under paragraph (1) may be made only in accordance with the procedures concerning notice to, and review by, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate that are applied by the Secretary in the case of a transfer of funds between appropriations.

(e) **ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF STATE FUNDS.**—The Secretary may accept and use funds provided by the State of California to assist in the implementation of the contract under this section.

(f) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—Not later than February 28 of each year during the term of the contract, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing—

(1) the resource management activities performed under the contract during the period covered by the report;

(2) the source and amount of funds used under subsection (d) to carry out the contract; and

(3) the resource management activities to be performed under the contract during the calendar year in which the report is submitted.

(g) **RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.**—Nothing in this section exempts the contract, or resource management activities to be performed under the contract, from any Federal environmental law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH).

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, the Granite Watershed Enhancement and Protection Act is an excellent bill that will enable the Forest Service to accomplish multiple resource objectives aimed at reducing fire risk and improving water quality under a single contract. H.R. 2886 provides for a pilot project on approximately 8,000 acres of National Forest land located in and around the 1993 Granite Burn on the Groveland District of the Stanislaus National Forest.

Major meadow restoration, thinning, fuels reductions and road maintenance work is needed in order to improve watershed and runoff conditions for this river canyon. Current law does not allow the Forest Service to offer such a multiple services contract. The legislation provides the necessary authority, and specifies that the project will be subject to all applicable environmental rules and standards.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE), for his work on this bill. He has done an admirable job in moving the bill forward with the support of the administration. The legislation reported by the Committee on Resources includes language requested by the administration to clarify the contracting authority, and it addresses concerns that were raised by the environmental community in the district of the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE). The meadow restoration, the thinning, the fuels reduction and road maintenance work authorized by the bill will greatly improve the conditions of the Granite watershed.

Now, 25 years after the Granite fire, I urge my colleagues to give their support to H.R. 2886, so that this much-needed work can finally be done.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) for her management of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which is sponsored by my good